

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 3. The replacement sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Fig. 3, reference numeral "209" has been replaced with reference numeral "308."

Attachment: **Replacement Sheet**
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 13, 2006. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

The drawings are objected to because the specification refers to end step "308" in Figure 3 while the end step in Figure 3 is shown as "209." Applicants have corrected Figure 3 to replace reference numeral "209" with reference numeral "308." Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Claims 1-19 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-19 are rejected. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 1 and 11 are amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. Claims 7 and 14 are amended in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 11 and to clarify the claimed subject matter. Claims 8 and 10 are amended to depend on claim 7. Claims 15-17 and 19 are amended to depend on claim 14. Applicants submit that the changes made herein do not introduce new matter.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Muniz* (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0087432) in view of *Tozzoli et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,151,588). The Examiner states that *Muniz* discloses a method for selling used equipment online, comprising receiving information representing items available for purchase, posting the information on an electronically viewable medium, and providing technical services related to the used equipment available for purchase to at least one of the buyer and seller through an integrated online service. The Examiner acknowledges that *Muniz* does not disclose that the pre-owned equipment is an integrated circuit manufacturing system or receiving an electronically transmitted bid from a buyer, transmitting the bid to a seller, and receiving a bid acceptance from the seller. The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to use *Tozzoli et al.*'s method of receiving and accepting bids for offers of purchase for used equipment in an

electronic environment with the electronic method of selling and buying used equipment as disclosed by *Muniz*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As amended, claim 1 recites a method wherein providing technical services comprises at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services. The Examiner states that *Muniz* discloses a method in which buyers are offered links to other web pages and directed to vendors providing complementary services and customer service links. The Examiner asserts that it would be obvious that the links to related web sites could include information related to providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services since these are basic services in a transaction related to buying and selling previously-owned equipment. Applicants respectfully submit that *Muniz's* broad description of providing products for sale, links to vendors providing complementary services, and a customer service section where users have access to answers to frequently asked questions regarding products, product providers, and their services does not provide a teaching or suggestion of providing technical services related to an integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase through an integrated online service, wherein the technical services comprise at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services. Applicants further submit that *Tozzoli et al.*, individually or in combination with *Muniz*, does not teach or suggest providing technical services related to an integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase through an integrated online service, wherein the technical services comprise at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services.

Thus, *Muniz* in view of *Tozzoli et al.* does not teach, show, or suggest a method for selling pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems online, comprising receiving information representing an integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase, posting the information on an electronically viewable medium, receiving an electronically transmitted bid for the integrated circuit manufacturing system from a

buyer, transmitting the bid to a seller, receiving a bid acceptance from the seller, and providing technical services related to the integrated circuit manufacturing system available for purchase to at least one of the buyer and seller through an integrated online service, wherein providing technical services comprises at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services, as recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and of claims 2-10, which depend thereon.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of dependent claims 7-10 on grounds that *Muniz* and *Tozzoli*, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method comprising providing technical services comprising at least one of providing system decontamination services and providing system refurbishment services, as recited in claim 7. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 7 and claims 8-10 dependent thereon.

Claims 11-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Muniz* and *Tozzoli*, and further in view of *Hess et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,058,417). The Examiner asserts that it would have been obvious to use *Tozzoli et al.*'s method of receiving and accepting bids for offers of purchase for used equipment in an electronic environment with the electronic method of selling and buying used equipment as disclosed by *Muniz*. The Examiner acknowledges that *Muniz* does not disclose receiving an electronic purchase bid for a specific pre-owned piece of equipment and asserts that it would have been obvious to combine the offering of particular items for sale as disclosed by *Hess et al.* with the online selling and buying system of *Muniz* and *Tozzoli*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As discussed above, *Muniz* and *Tozzoli* do not teach or suggest a method wherein providing technical services comprises at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services. *Hess et al.* describes a method of selling and buying a specific item online but does not teach or suggest that the specific item is a pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system or a method that includes providing technical services related to the sale of a pre-owned integrated circuit

manufacturing system, wherein providing technical services comprises at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services. Thus, *Muniz*, *Tozzoli*, and *Hess et al.*, individually or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest a method for selling used integrated circuit manufacturing equipment through an integrated electronic sales and technical service platform, comprising posting information regarding pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems available for purchase on an Internet web site, providing integrated technical services related to the sale of the pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing systems through the Internet web site, wherein providing integrated technical services comprises at least one of providing system inspection services, providing system audit services, providing system decontamination services, and providing system refurbishment services, receiving an electronic purchase bid for a specific pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system posted on the Internet web site, transmitting the electronic purchase bid to a seller of the specific pre-owned integrated circuit manufacturing system, and receiving a purchase bid acceptance from the seller, as recited in claim 11. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 11 and of claims 12-19, which depend thereon.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of dependent claims 14-19 on grounds that *Muniz*, *Tozzoli*, and *Hess et al.*, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest a method comprising providing integrated technical services comprising at least one of system decontamination services and system refurbishment services, as recited in claim 14. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 14 and claims 15-19 dependent thereon.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure than the primary references cited in the office action. Therefore, Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this office action.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTY DKT. NO.:
U.S. SERIAL NO.:
FILED:
APPLICANT:
TITLE:
INVENTOR:

ANNOTATED SHEET
APPM/005751/AGS/IBSS/LP
09/921,255
AUGUST 1, 2001
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
METHOD FOR SELLING PRE-OWNED INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT ONLINE
KOICHI USUI, ET AL.

CONFIRMATION: 3628

FIGURE 3

3/3

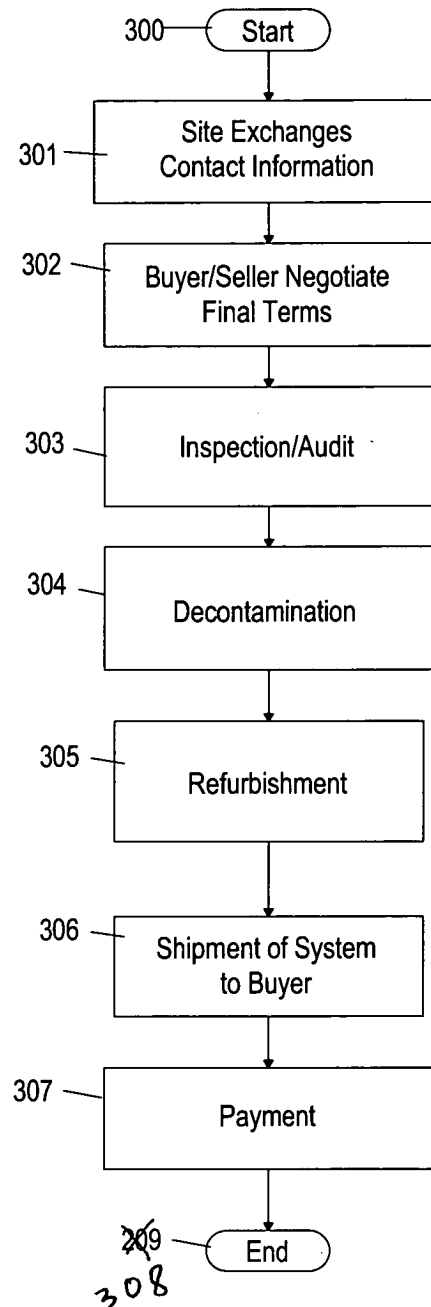


FIG. 3